

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 00358 071550Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 IO-13 /083 W
-----071630Z 104876 /44

R 071330Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 361
INFO M/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 3010
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
/MAMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 3037

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0358

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT EG
SUBJECT: RELEASE OF SHAR-'AWI GUM'A

1. PRESIDENTIAL DECREE OF JANUARY 1 ORDERING RELEASE OF FORMER MININT SHAR'AWI GUM'A, WAS REPORTED WITHOUT COMMENT BY CAIRO PRESS FOLLOWING DAY. FUM'A WAS ONE OF THREE KINGPINS IN ANTI-SADAT COUP ATTEMPT OF MAY 1971. HIS DEATH SENTENCE HAD BEEN COMMUTED BY SADAT TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT. ALSO RELEASED WAS FORMER HIGHER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER DIYA' AL-DIN DA'UD, WHO HAD SERVED HALF OF HIS TEN YEARS HARD LABOR SENTENCE.

2. COMMENT: SADAT HAS TOLD FOREIGN AND LOCAL JOURNALISTS FOR MANY MONTHS THAT TIME NOT RIPE FOR RELEASE 1971 COUP LEADERS. HE HAS ADMITTED PUBLICLY THAT SAMI SHARAF HAS BEEN ILL AND HAS SENT EMISSARIES REQUESTING SADAT HIS RELEASE. GUM'A HAS ALSO BEEN ILL AND WAS REPORTEDLY BRIEFLY RELEASED FOR HOSPITAL TREATMENT LAST YEAR.)

3. MUHAMMAD HASSANAYN HAYKAL, WHO, WHILE STILL ON THE OUTS WITH SADAT, REMAINS PRIVY TO MUCH INSIDE INFORMATION (THANKS TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CAIRO 00358 071550Z

HIS EXTRAORDINARILY BROAD RANGE OF LOYAL CONTACTS), GAVE THE AMBASSADOR HIS VERSION OF GUM'A'S RELEASE. HAYKAL EXPLAINED THAT SADAT HAD INFORMED THREE RINGLEADERS THAT THEIR RELEASE WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON PERSONAL LETTER TO HIM ADMITTING THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE COUP ATTEMPT AND "APOLOGIZING" FOR IT. GUM'A AND SHARAF HAVE WRITTEN SUCH LETTERS, HAYKAL ASSERTED, BUT ALI SABRI HAS SO FAR REFUSED.

4. IN THIS CONNECTION, HAYKAL OBSERVED THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY "POLITICAL PRISONERS" IN EGYPT. IN HIS VIEW (A V EIW SHARED BY SADAT), POLITICAL PRISONERS ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ACCORED A FORMER TRIAL.

EILTS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO00358
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770007-0325
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770173/aaaackls.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 039d30dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3647398
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RELEASE OF SHAR-\AWI GUM\A
TAGS: PINT, PINS, EG, (GUM\A, SHAR\AWI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/039d30dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009